IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently amended) A method of generating a hash signal ~~identifying~~ to identify content in an information signal, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

[-]dividing the information signal into frames[,];

[-]computing a hash word for each frame[,]; and

[-]concatenating successive hash words to constitute the hash signal[;],

wherein the computing of a hash word for each frame includes:

dividing each frame of the information signal into disjoint bands or blocks, and

calculating a property of the signal in each of said bands or blocks.

2.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said computing ~~step~~ comprises ~~the steps of~~:

[-]~~dividing each frame of the information signal into disjoint bands or blocks;~~

[-]~~calculating a property of the signal in each of said bands or blocks;~~

[-]comparing the properties in the bands or blocks with respective thresholds[,]; and

[-]representing the results of said comparisons by respective bits of the hash word.

3.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the property of a neighboring band or block constitutes said threshold.

4.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the property of a corresponding band or block in a previous frame constitutes said threshold.

5.   · (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the bands or blocks are frequency bands of the frequency spectrum of the respective frame of the information signal.

6.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the frequency bands have an increasing bandwidth as a function of the frequency.

7.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said property is the energy of a frequency band.

8.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said property is the tonality of a frequency band.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said information signal is divided into overlapping frames.

10.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the information signal is a video signal, the frames of which are divided into blocks, the mean luminance of a block constituting the property of said block.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of using the inputs of said comparing steps to generate information which is indicative of the reliability of the bits of the hash word.

12.   (Currently Amended) A method of generating a hash signal to identify <u>content in</u> an information signal, <u>the method</u> comprising the steps of:

[[-]] dividing the information signal into blocks;

[[-]]extracting for each block a feature of the information signal within said block;

[[-]] comparing the value of the extracted feature with a threshold;

[[-]] generating for each block a hash bit indicating whether the value of the extracted feature is larger or smaller than said threshold;

[[-]] determining for each block reliability information indicating whether the value of the extracted feature differs substantially from said threshold;

[[-]] combining said hash bits and said reliability information of the blocks into a hash value having reliable hash bits for which the extracted feature differs substantially from said threshold,

and unreliable bits for which the extracted feature does not differ substantially from said
threshold.

13.   (Currently Amended) An arrangement for generating a hash signal identifying an
information signal in accordance with the method as claimed in <u>claim 1</u>~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~.

14.   (Currently amended) A method <u>to identify multimedia content utilizing</u> ~~of~~ matching an
input block of hash words representing at least a part of an information signal with hash signals
identifying respective information signals stored in a database, the method comprising ~~the steps~~
~~of~~:

~~(a)~~   selecting a hash word of said input block of hash words;

~~(b)~~   searching said hash word in the database <u>to obtain a found hash word</u>;

~~(c)~~   calculating a difference between the input block of hash words and a stored block of hash
words in which the <u>found</u> hash word ~~found in step (b)~~ has the same position as the selected hash
word in the input block;<u> and</u>

~~(d)~~   repeating <u>the selecting, searching and calculating</u> ~~steps (a) to (c)~~ for a further selected
hash word until said difference is lower than a predetermined threshold.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the further selected hash word is another
hash word of the input block of hash words.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the further selected hash word is obtained by
reversing a bit of the previously selected hash word.

17.   (Currently Amended))The method of claim 16, further comprising ~~the steps of~~ receiving
information which is indicative of the reliability of the bits of the selected hash word, and using
said information to determine the bit to be reversed.

18.   (Currently amended) A method <u>to identify multimedia content utilizing</u> ~~of~~ matching a
hash value representing an unidentified information signal with a plurality of hash values stored

in a database and identifying a respective plurality of information signals, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a)   receiving said hash value in the form of a plurality of reliable hash bits and unreliable hash bits;

(b)   searching in the database the stored hash values for which holds that the reliable bits of the applied hash value match the corresponding bits of the stored hash value;

(c)   for each stored hash value found <u>during the searching</u> ~~in step (b)~~, calculating the bit error rate between the reliable bits of the hash value representing the unidentified information signal and the corresponding bits of the stored hash value; and

(d)   determining for which stored hash values the bit error rate is minimal and sufficiently small.

19.   (Currently amended) A method <u>to identify multimedia content utilizing</u> ~~of~~ matching a hash signal representing an unidentified information signal with a plurality of hash signals stored in a database and identifying a respective plurality of information signals, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a)   receiving said hash signal in the form of a series of hash values, each hash value having reliable hash bits and unreliable hash bits;

(b)   applying one of the hash values of said series to the database;

(c)   searching in the database the stored hash values for which holds that the reliable bits of the applied hash value match the corresponding bits of the stored hash value;

(d)   for each stored hash value found <u>during the searching</u> ~~in step (c)~~:

      [[-]] selecting in the database the corresponding series of stored hash values; <u>and</u>

      [[-]] calculating the bit error rate between the reliable bits of the series of hash values representing the unidentified information signal and the corresponding bits of the selected series of hash values in the database; and

(f)   determining for which series of stored hash values the bit error rate is minimal and sufficiently small.

20.   (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising ~~the steps of~~ repeating the applying, searching, selecting, calculating and determining ~~steps (b)-(f)~~ for other hash values of the unidentified information signal until a series of stored hash values is found for which the bit error rate is minimal and sufficiently small.

21.   (Currently Amended) An arrangement for matching an input block of hash words representing at least a part of an information signal with hash signals identifying respective information signals stored in a database in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 14~~any one of claims 14 to 20~~.

22.   (Currently amended) A method to redirect ~~of redirecting~~ a receiver of an information signal to an Internet website, the method ~~comprising the steps of~~ deriving a hash signal from said information signal, and matching said hash signal with hash signals identifying Internet websites stored in a database.

23.   (Currently amended) A method to determine ~~of measuring~~ the quality of an information signal, the method ~~comprising the steps of~~ deriving a hash signal from said information signal, matching said hash signal with a hash signal identifying said information signal stored in a database, and calculating the difference between the derived hash signal and the stored hash signal.

24.   (Currently amended) A method to identify multimedia content ~~of identifying~~ associated with a multimedia signal, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~ receiving and/or recording at least a part of said multimedia signal, deriving a hash signal from said multimedia signal, sending said hash signal to a database for matching it with hash signals stored in said database, and receiving from said database an identifier of the multimedia signal.

25.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein said ~~steps of~~ receiving and/or recording of the multimedia signal, the deriving and sending of the hash signal, and the receiving of the identifier are performed by a mobile telephone device.